

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 20

Introduced by Assembly Member Aghazarian

February 5, 2003

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 20—Relative to California Agriculture Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 20, as introduced, Aghazarian. California Agriculture Week.

This measure would recognize the important role that agriculture plays in the daily lives of every Californian, and would declare March 17 to 23, 2003, as California Agriculture Week, and would recognize March 20, 2003, as National Agriculture Day in acknowledgement of the future progress and prosperity of the state's economy and for the advancement of greater appreciation of farmers and ranchers across California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California's agriculture helps feed the world and
2 fuels our state's economy; and
3 WHEREAS, California continues to set the pace for the rest of
4 the nation by remaining the country's largest agricultural producer
5 and exporter; and
6 WHEREAS, California's unique blend of fertile soils and
7 temperate climates, combined with our business and technological
8 innovations, has helped to create the most sophisticated food and
9 fiber production and distribution systems in the world; and
10 WHEREAS, For more than 50 years, our farmers and ranchers
11 have made this state the nation's leader in agriculture production,

1 producing more than 350 crops, many of which are only grown
2 here. California's bounty is a main ingredient in the salad bowls,
3 fruit baskets, and markets of the world; and

4 WHEREAS, The Golden State's agriculture products can be
5 found from Europe to Asia, and from Africa to Latin America; and

6 WHEREAS, Agriculture plays a vital role in California's
7 economy, generating approximately \$27.2 billion a year and
8 providing one out of every 10 jobs in the state; and

9 WHEREAS, California has 87,500 farms, which constitute
10 about 4 percent of the nation's total farms; and

11 WHEREAS, California's two leading commodities are milk
12 with \$3.70 billion and grapes with \$2.84 billion in cash receipts;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, California grows more than half of the nation's
15 fruits and vegetables; artichokes, dates, figs, kiwifruit, olives,
16 persimmons, and prunes, crops which would be difficult to find
17 growing in any other state; and

18 WHEREAS, The stewardship of California's farmers and
19 ranchers ensures a sustainable resource base for future
20 generations; and

21 WHEREAS, California's agriculture builds on centuries of
22 progress by seeking constantly to advance in science, research,
23 technology, production, and marketing to meet the demands of
24 changing consumer needs and complex world markets; and

25 WHEREAS, The agricultural community engages tens of
26 thousands of volunteers and organizations to help educate students
27 about agriculture's preeminent role in modern-day America
28 through agricultural literacy efforts; and

29 WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day was started in 1973 by
30 the Agriculture Council of America and is celebrated on the first
31 day of spring each year; now therefore, be it;

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring*, That the Assembly recognizes the important
34 role that agriculture plays in the daily lives of every Californian,
35 and declares March 17 to 23, 2003, as California Agriculture
36 Week, and recognizes March 20, 2003, as National Agriculture
37 Day in acknowledgement of the future progress and prosperity of

- 1 the state's economy and for the advancement of greater
- 2 appreciation of farmers and ranchers across California.

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